

policing also is the backbone in our war on terrorism, as community officers are more likely to know the witnesses and more likely to be trusted by community residents who have information about potential attacks. This bill provides over \$1 billion per year for this program.

The bill also includes language offered by Rep. Adam Schiff to require the Attorney General to report to Congress on the number of persons detained on suspicion of terrorism. This is important because the Department has thwarted congressional and judicial efforts to obtain justification for terrorism detainees. The Department's Office of the Inspector General found that the Department and its components had abused terrorism suspects, pushing them into walls, leaving them in legal limbo, and depriving them of access to family or counsel. With these reports, Congress can better determine whether the Department is overstepping its bounds again.

Finally, I am pleased the Chairman agreed with me that we needed to amend the emergency sessions authority for federal courts. Just a few months ago, we authorized federal courts to change locations in situations of natural disasters or other emergencies that make their courthouses unusable. This bill now ensures that, in those situations, indigent defendants will be provided with transportation and subsistence costs for the new location so that they will not be left to fend for themselves in disaster.

TRIBUTE TO ROBERT V. JEWELL

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 14, 2006

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, today I am paying tribute to Robert V. Jewell, as he is honored by the University of Michigan-Flint alumni society. The Alumni Society is presenting their Campus Service Award to Rob at a ceremony on March 23 in Flint, Michigan.

The Campus Service Award is given to a volunteer making a significant contribution of time, talent, and service to the University of Michigan-Flint. Rob was chosen to receive this award for his work on the Alumni Society Board of Governors. He has served on the board for over 15 years and has completed two stints as the chairperson. In addition he has played a vital role in the development of the University's School of Education and Human Services Alumni Affiliate.

After graduating with a bachelor of arts degree in sociology with a minor in social work in 1978, Rob began his career of service to the Flint community. He has worked or volunteered for numerous community-based organizations, educational institutions and religious groups. Blending the fresh with the practical he has established a reputation in the community for energetic, enthusiastic problem solving.

Currently working as development coordinator for the Hurley Foundation, Rob works to bring together the people and funds to improve Hurley Medical Center and the Flint area. For many he is known as "Mr. Hurley." He brings that same commitment to his work on behalf of the University of Michigan-Flint as he strives to improve the lifelong educational experience of its students and alumni.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to congratulate Robert V. Jewell as he

receives the Campus Service Award from the University of Michigan-Flint Alumni Society.

CONGRATULATING FATHER PAUL MCDONNELL, PITTSSTON CITY'S PERSON OF THE YEAR

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 14, 2006

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask you and my esteemed colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to Father Paul McDonnell, pastor of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church in Pittston, Luzerne County, PA. Father McDonnell was recently selected by the Pittston Sunday Dispatch newspaper to receive the title of Person of the Year for 2005.

The honor is due to Father McDonnell's success in building a new parish community center to serve all citizens in the Pittston area.

Our Lady of Mount Carmel parish consists of 2,300 members and is showing signs of growth. Father McDonnell recognized in 2002 that the church basement, which hosted community events, was no longer adequate.

He subsequently launched a capital campaign to raise the funds needed for the construction project. The design called for the center to be physically tied into the church so they looked like one building. The plan called for the new center to be supported by the church. But, engineers discovered that a large part of the church's foundation had collapsed during an earlier mine cave-in and it was remarkable that the church over the void was even supporting itself, let alone a new structure. The void was filled with concrete and steel and new steel supports were designed to enable the church to support the weight of the new center.

The Sunday Dispatch newspaper, in reporting on the opening of the new center last year, commented, "The dedication of the parish center . . . was more than just the opening of a building—it was a moving testament to faith, an astonishing display of generosity and an amazing feat of engineering."

Father McDonnell is an exceedingly popular church leader in the city of Pittston, PA. Many people believe it is his personality and exuberance that has his parish growing while others decline. He is especially liked by the elderly. "In his interaction with the elderly, you can see the love they have for him by how they look at him. He touches them, he speaks to them, he listens to them and he laughs with them," the Dispatch wrote.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Father McDonnell for a job well done. His selection as Pittston Person of the Year is a fitting honor for a priest who has captured the admiration of an entire community due to his love of fellow man, his warmth and his enthusiasm. Truly, Father McDonnell has improved the quality of life in greater Pittston.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF KIRBY PUCKETT

HON. JIM RAMSTAD

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 14, 2006

Mr. RAMSTAD. Mr. Speaker, Minnesota lost a true hero and sports legend this past week. Like Minnesota's Paul Bunyan, he was instantly recognizable, from his name to his gigantic smile to his unique frame.

But Kirby Puckett was very real, and the pain all Minnesotans feel is too real, as we say farewell to a Minnesota icon.

Mr. Speaker, Minnesota is heartbroken. Kirby Puckett was known as much for his great spirit, enthusiasm and energy as he was for his remarkable baseball skills.

He did so much to help people in need, and he was always there for civic and charitable causes of every kind. He never said no to Children's Heartlink, Big Brothers Big Sisters or numerous other charities.

And his "Puckett Scholars" program helped enable so many minority students to attend college and pursue their dreams.

To say that Kirby is known as much for his community service as his baseball is really saying something, Mr. Speaker.

Because Hall of Famer Kirby Puckett in his baseball career put up some historic statistics and gave baseball fans many memorable thrills on the field.

Remember October 27, 1991? In Minnesota, we all know where we were that night.

I was at the Metrodome, and I will never forget Kirby's impossibly high leap at the center-field fence and his amazing catch in the third inning of Game 6 of the 1991 World Series.

And no Minnesota Twins fan will ever forget Kirby's dramatic 11th-inning, game-ending home run to almost the same spot in the very same game.

Mr. Speaker, Kirby did it all in 12 short seasons and was elected to Baseball's Hall of Fame on the very first ballot upon eligibility. Twelve short seasons, and a .318 career average, 2,304 hits, 1,085 runs batted in, 207 homers, 1,071 runs—all in just 1,783 games. And the numbers do not begin to tell the whole story.

Kirby Puckett was the leader, the favorite teammate, the name the kids screamed and the name the public address announcer lingered over and stretched out for maximum dramatic effect.

He ran all out at break-neck speed—in center field and around the bases. And his teammates got the clue. They were driven to match his intensity and love for the game.

Minnesota Twins fans loved him so for that. And we always will.

Mr. Speaker, our entire state has an extended lower lip, and our heads are bowed. We are so very saddened by the death of Kirby Puckett.

Just the mention of his name has always brought smiles to the faces of Minnesotans of all ages—and so many great memories.

Mr. Speaker, you will find many kids in Minnesota named Kirby and the reason is simple: Kirby captured all our hearts.

In summers past, Kirby made our hearts race with his tremendous athletic feats. His powerful batting stroke produced so many clutch hits.